

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Previously amended) A system for interconnecting a plurality of data communication devices, the system comprising:

a first data communication path for receiving a transmission from a first data communication device;

an arbitrator operative to automatically:

determine, from the transmission, an identity of a second data communication device,

determine, from the identity of the second data communication device, a selected data format from a group of at least three data formats, the selected data format being expected by the second data communication device, and

convert the transmission into the selected data format determined from the identity of the second data communications device; and

a second data communication path for transmitting the transmission converted by the arbitrator to the second data communication device.

2. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein each of the plurality of data communication devices has an identifying characteristic, and wherein the arbitrator is further operative to:

maintain a database that stores the identifying characteristics of each of the plurality of data communication devices;

retrieve the identifying characteristic of the first data communication device from the transmission received; and

search the database with the identifying characteristic of the first data communication device to determine the identity of the second data communication device.

3. (Original) The system of claim 2, wherein the database stores a data format expected by each of the plurality of data communication devices, and wherein the arbitrator is further operative to search the database using the identifying characteristic of the first data communication device to determine the data format expected by the second data communication device.

4. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein each of the plurality of data communication devices has an identifying characteristic, and wherein the arbitrator is further operative to:

maintain a database that stores the identifying characteristics of each of the plurality of data communication devices;

retrieve the identifying characteristic of the second data communication device from the transmission received; and

search the database with the identifying characteristic of the second data communication device.

5. (Original) The system of claim 4, wherein the database stores a method of transport to each of the plurality of data communication devices, and wherein the arbitrator is further operative to:

search the database with the identifying characteristic of the second data communication device to determine the method of transport to the second data communication device; and

transmit the transmission that is converted into the data format that is expected by the second communication device using the method of transport determined for the second data communication device.

6. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein at least one of the first and second data communication devices is a wireless device, and wherein at least one of the first and second data communication paths is a data communication path for communicating with the wireless device.

7. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the first data communication device uses a first data format and the second data communication device uses a second data format which is incompatible with the first data format, and wherein the arbitrator is further operative to convert the transmission from the first data format to the second data format.

8. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the data format is selected from the group comprising time division multiple access, code division multiple access and global system for mobile telecommunications.

9. (Currently amended) A system for managing communication among a plurality of data communication devices, the system comprising:

a first data communication device for dispatching a first data transmission using a first wireless access method;

a second data communication device for dispatching a second data transmission using a second wireless access method distinct from the first wireless access method;

a third data communication device for receiving the second data transmission from the second data communication device; and

an arbitrator for:

receiving the first data transmission from the first data communication device,

determining, from the first data transmission, an identity of the third data communication device to receive the first data transmission,

determining a data format from at least three potential data formats, the data format being expected by the third data communication device for the first data transmission,

converting the first data transmission to the data format expected by the third data communication device, and

transmitting the converted first data transmission to the third data communication device.

10. (Original) The system of claim 9, wherein each of the plurality of data communication devices has an identifying characteristic, further comprising:

a database for maintaining information regarding the plurality of data communication devices and the identifying characteristic of each of the plurality of data communication devices, whereby the arbitrator retrieves the identifying characteristic of the first data communication device from the first data transmission and searches the database with the identifying characteristic of the first data communication device to determine the identity of the third data communication device.

11. (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein the database stores the data format expected by each of the plurality of data communication devices and the arbitrator searches the database with the identifying characteristics of the first data communication device to determine the data format expected by the third data communication device.

12. (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein the arbitrator is further operative to compare the data format expected by the third data communication device with a data format used by the first data communication device.

13. (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein at least one of the first and second data communication devices is a wireless device.

14. (Original) A method for interconnecting a central data communication device and a plurality of remote data communication devices, wherein the remote data communication devices are associated with a plurality of wireless access methods, comprising:

receiving a first transmission from a first remote data communication device associated with a first wireless access method;

retrieving a first mobile identification number (MIN) for the first remote data communication device from the first transmission;

using the first MIN to identify the central data communication device and a data format expected by the central data communication device;

converting the first transmission so that it is compatible with the data format expected by the central data communication device; and

transmitting the converted first transmission to the central data communication device.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14, further comprising:

receiving a second transmission from a second remote data communication device associated with a second wireless access method;

retrieving a second MIN for the second remote data communication device from the second transmission;

using the second MIN to identify the central data communication device and a data format expected by the central data communication device;

converting the second transmission so that it is compatible with the data format expected by the central data communication device; and

transmitting the converted second transmission to the central data communication device.

16. (Original) The method of claim 14, further comprising:

retrieving a first mobile switching center identification number (MSCID) for a mobile switch associated with the first remote data communication device from the first transmission; and

using the first MSCID, along with the first MIN, to determine whether the first wireless access method and the data format expected by the central data communication device are compatible.

17. (Original) The method of claim 14, further comprising:
 - receiving a third transmission from the central data communication device;
 - retrieving the first mobile identification number (MIN) from the third transmission;
 - using the first MIN to identify the first remote communication device and the first wireless access method associated with the first remote data communication device; and
 - transmitting the third transmission to the first remote data communication device.
18. (Original) The method of claim 17, further comprising:
 - using the first MIN to identify a transmission path between an arbitrator and a mobile switching center (MSC) associated with the first remote device.
19. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein using the first MIN to identify the central data communication device, comprises:
 - using the first MIN to access a database maintained by an arbitrator.

20. (Previously added) The system of Claim 9, wherein the arbitrator is further operable for,

receiving the second data transmission from the second data communication device before it is transmitted to the third data communication device;

determining a data format from at least three potential data formats, the data format being expected by the third data communication device for the data transmission,

converting the second data transmission to the data format expected by the third data communication device, and

transmitting the converted second data transmission to the third data communication device.

21. (Previously added) A method for interconnecting a central data communication device and a plurality of remote data communication devices, wherein the remote data communication devices are associated with a plurality of wireless access methods, comprising:

receiving a converted first transmission from an arbitrator wherein the arbitrator created the converted first transmission from an original first transmission by

receiving the original first transmission from a first remote data communication device associated with a first wireless access method;

retrieving a first mobile identification number (MIN) for the first remote data communication device from the original first transmission;

using the first MIN to identify the central data communication device and a data format expected by the central data communication device; and

converting the original first transmission so that it is compatible with the data format expected by the central data communication device.

22. (Previously added) The method of Claim 21, further comprising:

receiving a converted second transmission from the arbitrator wherein the arbitrator created the converted second transmission from an original second transmission by

receiving the original second transmission from a second remote data communication device associated with a second wireless access method;

retrieving a second mobile identification number (MIN) for the second remote data communication device from the original second transmission;

using the second MIN to identify the central data communication device and the data format expected by the central data communication device; and

converting the original second transmission so that it is compatible with the data format expected by the central data communication device.

23. (Previously added) The method of Claim 21, wherein the arbitrator is further operable for

retrieving a first mobile switching center identification number (MSCID) for a mobile switch associated with the first remote data communication device from the original first transmission; and

using the first MSCID, along with the first MIN, to determine whether the first wireless access method and the data format expected by the central data communication device are compatible.

24. (Previously added) The method of Claim 21, further comprising sending a third transmission from the central data communication device to the arbitrator, wherein the arbitrator is operable for,

retrieving the first mobile identification number (MIN) from the third transmission;

using the first MIN to identify the first remote communication device and the first wireless access method associated with the first remote data communication device;

converting the third transmission so that it is compatible with the data format expected by the first remote data communication device; and

transmitting the converted third transmission to the first remote data communication device.

25. (Previously added) A system for interconnecting a plurality of data communication devices, the system comprising:

a first data communication path for receiving a transmission from a first data communication device;

an arbitrator operative to automatically:

retrieve a first mobile identification number (MIN) for the first remote data communication device;

use the first MIN to identify a second data communication device and a data format expected by the second data communication device;

convert the transmission into the data format expected by the second data communication device; and

a second data communication path for transmitting the transmission converted by the arbitrator to the second data communication device.

26. (Previously added) The system of Claim 25, each of the plurality of data communication devices has a MIN, and wherein the arbitrator is further operative to:

maintain a database that stores the MIN of each of the plurality of data communication devices;

retrieve the MIN of the first data communication device from the transmission received; and

search the database with the MIN of the first data communication device to determine the identity of the second data communication device.

27. (Previously added) The system of Claim 25, further comprising a database that stores the data format expected by each of the plurality of data communication devices, and wherein the arbitrator is further operative to search the database using the MIN of the first data communication device to determine the data format expected by the second data communication device.